OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN EARL BLUMENAUER
APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM
FISCAL YEAR 2011

Instructions

1. Please complete the entire form. **All fields are required.**
2. Please do not **bold**, underline, or *italicize* responses.
3. Request forms must be submitted as a Word document.
4. All completed request forms and any supplemental materials must be submitted via email to: **Appropriations.Blumenauer@mail.house.gov**
5. Please do not send more than one request per email.
6. All completed request forms must be submitted no later than **Friday, February 26, 2010**.
7. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your request within 48 hours of submission, please contact Stephanie Cappa in Congressman Blumenauer's Washington, D.C. office at 202-225-4811.

PLEASE NOTE: All appropriations requests submitted to Congressman Blumenauer's office will be made public on his website, as required by the House Committee on Appropriations.

Project Details

1. Project title: Columbia River Recovery Act

2. Organization name and address (the recipient of the funds)**:**
Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership
811 SW Naito Parkway, Suite 410
Multnomah County
Portland, Oregon 97204
503.226.1565 x227

3. Contact information

a. **Project's primary contact:** Debrah Marriott

b. Daytime telephone number/ mobile phone number:
503.226.1565 x227

c. Email Address: marriott@lcrep.org

d. Project location
The Estuary Partnership activities take place in 29 communities and 9 counties in Oregon and Washington.

4. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities.
The Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership is a non-profit working with public and private citizens and stakeholders across political boundaries in Oregon and Washington to restore thousands of acres of habitat, monitor water quality, fish tissue and sediment to expand reduction of toxic contaminants and to provide over 112,000 students hands-on learning experiences while helping 1,198 teachers meet state benchmarks.
The Estuary Partnership Goals are:

- Protect the ecosystem and species - restore 19,000 acres of wetlands and habitat by 2014 and promote improvements in stormwater management.

- Reduce toxic and conventional pollution - conduct long term monitoring and advocate to eliminate persistent bioaccumulative toxics, improve water quality, reduce hydrocarbon and heavy metal discharges, and reduce bacterial contamination.
- Provide information about the river to a range of audiences - compile, evaluate, and publish data, offer natural science education programs for children, and build public and private partnerships.

Every dollar invested directly in the Estuary Partnership is leveraged and reinvested throughout our economy to support the ecosystem recovery in the Columbia River. In the last 10 years, the Estuary Partnership has:

- Restored 2,463 acres of habitat, funding 45 habitat projects. Combined with partners' investments, restored a total of 15,700 acres of habitat.
- Mapped 134 restoration activities using web based interactive maps to offer techniques and lessons.
- Completed an inventory and classification of conditions along 630 miles of river shoreline.
- Developed and refined regional restoration criteria.
- Collected bathymetry and land cover data.
- Raised $4 million to complete toxic and conventional pollutant water quality monitoring, and to analyze suspended sediment and juvenile salmonid samples for PAHs, PCBs, pharmaceuticals, flame retardants (PBDEs), current- use pesticides. Results found that banned contaminants, including DDEs and PCBs, and current-use contaminants, such as mercury and flame retardants, are present in sediment and fish. Also found were other in-use and emerging contaminants that are lethal or impact the growth, reproduction and immune systems of aquatic organisms. These include many types of pesticides, petroleum hydrocarbons (PAHs), personal care products and pharmaceuticals. Estuary Partnership found contaminants in water, fish and sediment are causing hormonal changes that inhibit fish survival and accumulate up the food chain. Provided stormwater management assistance to help two communities meet federal Phase II stormwater requirements.
- Developed and maintain a website showcasing local water-quality friendly development and giving technical information and local resources.
- Conducted six years of ecosystem monitoring.
- Hosting a pilot drug take back project with Astoria, Oregon Hospice and Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies.
- Provided 122,135 youths and adults programs.
  - 1,993 youth and adult volunteers planted 28,482 native plants and removed 200 truckloads of invasive species at 26 sites.
  - 112,540 students received applied learning with 27 different curriculums. That's:
    - 13,483 students in service learning projects such as water quality monitoring and habitat enhancement
    - 12,474 students in outdoor applied learning projects
    - 79,103 students in classroom programs
    - 8,148 students on the river
    - Five schoolyard stormwater retrofit projects involved students in classroom lessons, site design, construction and planting
- Hosted over a dozen science workshops with over 100 regional, state and federal experts.
- Hosted a continuing series of 'Science to Policy forums with scientists, practitioners and community leaders to use current science to chart the course for the region and Estuary Partnership.
- Developed an online "Toxics Monitoring Interactive Map" with data from over 400 sites.
- Developing a sediment management and dredge placement plan.
- Funded a feasibility of an upland disposal site for dredge material for lower river ports.
- Implementing actions of the Federal Columbia River Power System Biological Opinions.
- Lead regional response planning through implementation of its Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan since 1999 and developed NOAA's Columbia River Estuary Recovery Plan Module released in 2007and the Subbasin Plan for the Northwest Power and Conservation Council in 2005.

All plans call for reducing hydrosystem effects, restoring habitat, addressing toxic contaminants, slowing the introduction of non-native species, reducing predation, and managing uncertainty.

- Published several technical guides and community information pieces, including report on water quality status, health report on the lower river and estuary, case studies and lessons learned in habitat restoration, and education materials for children.
- Developed and published a broad selection of scientific reports, public awareness pieces, and student targeted products that convey important lower Columbia River information to a broad range of audiences. Examples include: Habitat Restoration Case Studies, State of the Estuary Report, the Lower Columbia River and Estuary Ecosystem Monitoring: Water Quality and Salmon Sampling Report and The Kid's For the Columbia Activity Book.
- Developed a 146 mile water trail and its companion website that provides information on launch and landing sites, camp sites, safety, tides, the shipping channel, and leave-no-trace trail use.

5. Is this organization a public, private non-profit, or private for-profit entity?

Non profit

6. From what federal agency and account are you requesting funds (Please be specific –e.g., Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account)?

EPA

Account: US Environmental Protection Agency, Environmental Programs and Management.

7. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (no more than 500 words).

The Columbia River Recovery Act projects will restore habitat and reduce toxics in water, sediment, wildlife and fish creating over 55 jobs throughout lower river and estuary and the Columbia Basin. Ready to go:

- Establish a monitoring network to identify extent and distribution of toxics (pesticides, metals, PCBs, PAHs, PBDEs, dioxins/furans, estrogenic compounds, pharmaceuticals) in water, sediment, and fish. Assess trends impacting public and ecosystem health, fill data gaps, and identify areas of toxics. accumulation and sources of contaminants, target reduction projects for greatest impact, and evaluate effectiveness of projects over time.
- Map toxics hot spots for targeted cleanup.
- Assess effectiveness of habitat restoration in fish recovery.
- Remove contaminants with collection events for mercury, pesticides and pharmaceuticals to keep toxics out of river and dispose of safely.
- Provide consumer information about personal care product ingredients that are safe and do not disrupt hormone balance in fish.
- Build bridges, remove tidegates, replace culverts, plant trees
- Complete a regional sediment management plan to direct disposal of dredge material.
- Design engineering and permitting for restoration for habitat for threatened and endangered species, focusing on elements of projects that BPA, NOAA and the Corps cannot fund. Provides jobs for civil and construction engineers, large equipment operators, traffic safety flaggers, haulers, road contractors, and structural engineers, and foresters for restoration projects.
- Provide assistance and technical support to farmers, ranchers, soil conservation districts, tribal governments and watershed councils to install best management practices to reduce soil erosion and toxics into the Columbia River Basin.

8. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?

This package creates 55 jobs in the Columbia Basin. Data comes from standard Oregon Department of Transportation calculations and using actual data from similar projects done in past eight years. The jobs include construction design contractors, engineers, biologists, hydrologists, builders and support workers to restore these acres of habitat, technicians to monitor and analyze data, and educators to provide these programs to students.

Beyond today's economic impact, the Estuary Partnership habitat restoration and monitoring programs protect, restore and clean up the environment, build long term economic health and create jobs now. Thirteen species of salmonids are listed as threatened or endangered. Fifty percent of habitat has been lost and toxic contaminants exist in water, fish and sediment. Our habitat restoration and toxics reduction projects are focused on recovery of those salmonid species and the cleanup of contaminants. This loss of fish has had a decimating effect on our commercial fishing industry. Oregon State University reports that in 1976-1980 the commercial salmon fishing industry provided $41 million in personal income dropping to a low of just $4 million by 1998. Disposal of contaminated sediment is causing problems for lower river ports that need to dredge to maintain their facilities.

The Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership leverages federal funds to achieve on-the-ground environmental improvements and deliver applied learning programs to students. Since 2000, we have brought an additional $27,300,000 to the region as a result of leveraging. The funds come from the public and private sectors, indicating broad community support for what we do. They include funds from Bonneville Power Administration, EPA Watershed Initiative, Army Corps, and NOAA Fisheries for habitat restoration and monitoring. Federal monies are needed to raise these other funds. Restoration projects we fund also require a minimum of 25% cost share, investing another $6,030,000 in the region since 2000.

The Estuary Partnership leverages federal agencies resources and coordinates federal agencies programs to improve efficiencies and communication and ensure a coordinated approach to regional projects. Funds going directly to these entities continue disparate, non-integrated activities.

Addressing habitat loss and toxic contamination bolster the local economy by immediately supporting jobs for contractors, hydrologists, truck drivers, farmers, and provides a market for nurseries. Future economic impact is achieved by protecting navigational jetties, fishery habitats and beaches from ongoing erosion. Keeping contaminants out of the system is more economical than costly clean up. Habitat restoration improves fish runs and bolsters recreational and commercial fishing industries. The economic viability of ports and the maintenance of navigation channels are challenged by the controlled, safe disposal of millions of cubic yards of contaminated dredged spoils.

Twice the US EPA has acknowledged that addressing ecosystem degradation in the Columbia River is a national priority. First by designating the lower Columbia River and estuary an estuary of national significance in the National Estuary Program in 1995 and second, in 2006 by elevating the entire Columbia River Basin to the status of a Large Aquatic Ecosystem (formerly called Great Water Bodies). The Columbia River basin joined the Great Lakes, Lake Champlain, Long Island Sound, Chesapeake Bay, Gulf of Mexico, South Florida Ecosystem, San Francisco, Pacific Islands and Puget Sound as a national priority in EPA's Strategic Plan. The plan directs EPA to demonstrate a 10% reduction in mean concentration of contaminants of concern found in water and fish tissue. EPA is working with state and tribal entities as well as the Estuary Partnership to identify toxic reduction actions to meet this goal.

The Columbia Basin is the only Large Aquatic Ecosystem to receive no appropriations in FY07, FY08, FY09, or FY10 yet EPA identifies all LAE's as national priorities in its 2006-2011 and 2009 - 2014 Strategic Plans. Appropriations set in the President's FY11 budget for other LAE range from $3,000,000 (Long Island Sound) to $20,000,000 (Puget Sound) to $63,000,000 (Chesapeake Bay) to $300,000,000 (Great Lakes). Many one time studies repeatedly show contaminants of concern in the mainstem Columbia. Yet, no sustained monitoring exists; sources of contaminants are unknown.

The Columbia River has significant environmental, cultural and historic significance. Over 8,000,000 people live in the Basin, and all depend on it to some degree for their livelihood, sustenance, transportation of goods, and overall quality of life. We have lost over 50% of habitat since settlement. The loss of fish has had a decimating effect on our commercial fishing industry. It is home to thirteen threatened and endangered salmonid species and hundreds of other wildlife. Toxic contaminants are in the fish, sediment and water. The river continues to be a nationally important shipping and transportation corridor. The river's five deep water ports are the nation's primary terminals for several importers of manufactured vehicles and the major depot for the export of the nation's grain. Several lower river ports (Astoria and Ilwaco) no longer have disposal options for dredge material, threatening their ability to operate.

This funding will implement costly projects that address systemic issues; they are big and beyond the ability of small competitive funds to address; the problems they address are the accumulation of many, many activities by many sectors for decades.

9. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years?
No

<u>Funding Details</u>

10. Amount requested for this project:
$3,900,000 ($2,650,000 Lower River; $1,250,000 Above Bonneville)

11. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project (e.g., salary $40,000; computer $3,000):

Goals and Results. When the funds are available, in the lower river and estuary, the Estuary Partnership will:

1) Analyze and remove toxic contaminants: $1,925,000

- Collect and analyze data at 13-15 sites, collecting samples from water, sediment, salmon, river mammals, and birds to get a comprehensive picture of contaminant sources and patterns: $1,525,000. Pre and post habitat restoration effectiveness monitoring to ensure quality of habitat for fish: $250,000. Over 130 emerging contaminants (such as estrogen compounds and personal care products); approximately 50 commonly used insecticides, herbicides and fungicides; over 130 moderately used pesticides; nearly 20 trace elements (including mercury, copper, and lead); and PCBs, PAHs, and flame retardants will be measured. This includes contaminants that cause growth, behavior, and reproductive abnormalities in salmon, river mammals, ospreys, and potentially humans. This will include toxics hot spots mapping for targeted removal. Distribute data to citizens, including at risk populations and Native Americas Tribal members with high fish consumption rate. consumer education and information: $50,000. Certain ingredients in personal care products cause hormone disruption in fish; providing consumers with information can help keep some of these contaminants out of the system.
- Conduct contaminant removal; collection events: $150,000. To collect and safely dispose of unused pharmaceuticals and pesticides that alter hormone balance. Pharmaceutical

collection also helps prevent accidental poisonings and teen access to these drugs. One recent pesticide take back site at The Dalles collected over 17,000 pounds of DDT stored in barns and garages. No collection sites have been held in lower river communities, yet these contaminants were used here.

2) Restore and Improve Habitat for Threatened and Endangered Species

- Habitat Restoration project readiness for salmon recovery (components of project not eligible for funding through BPA BiOp funds or Corps Section 536 funds). Hire technical experts to provide engineering, geotechnical, soils, hydrology, and other technical skills required to scope, design, and build large, complex restoration projects: $375,000. This provides economic development opportunities and improves the quantity, quality and size of habitat restoration projects in the lower Columbia River that will benefit threatened and endangered salmonids.
- Create dredge material disposal and sediment plan: $300,000. Dredging is needed to allow ports to maintain activities that directly impact local economy. Currently there is no regional disposal plan.

When funds are available above Bonneville Dam, EPA will:

1) Analyze and remove toxic contaminants

- Expand agricultural toxics reduction activities assisting farmers: $250,000
- Expand pesticide stewardship take back programs: $125,000
- Expand mercury collection events: $125,000 (especially on Tribal lands)
- Conduct water quality, sediment, fish tissue and wildlife sampling and analysis: $750,000

Measurement and Evaluation

The Estuary Partnership tracks and measures results with numerous databases to ensure we are meeting our program environmental goals.

- Data collected and analyzed will be provided in report form and consumer formats.
- GIS based map of toxic hot spots.
- Toxics "take back" collection will be measured by the number of collection sites and opportunities and volume of pollutants collected.
- Consumer education will be assessed by the materials produced and range of distribution.
- Habitat will be measured by the number of projects, the quality of the designed projects and results of implementation on the ground.
- Data sets will be delivered in hard copy and in GIS readable formats for scientists, project managers, regional governments, and citizens, including teachers.

The Estuary Partnership tracks all project implementation and provides regular reports to funding sources, including EPA and Congress and the general public. We track six indicators (habitat restoration/loss, changes in pollutant levels, status of endangered species, land cover, children served and citizens involved), collecting the data, analyzing it and reporting every five years on the health of the lower river.

12. What is the total cost of the project?

Total cost is projected to be approximately $3,900,000 per year for a minimum of six years for the lower river. We have a projected commitment of $3,900,000 for restoration and monitoring related to species recovery.

13. Is this project scalable (i.e., If partial funding is awarded, will the organization still be able to use the funds in FY 2011?)?

Yes, we have prepared this package with individual components so any amount can be spent immediately and provide results.

14. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please be specific about funding sources and funding amounts)

We have a three year commitment, approximately $3,900,000 annually, from BPA to provide funds for related habitat restoration and monitoring. The Estuary Partnership, including key partner investments, is leveraging 14:1 right now. Since 2000, we have brought additional $27.3 million cash to the lower Columbia River region. We currently receive approximately $4,200,000 in committed dollars (BPA and the States) and an additional $300,000 in competitive funds or donations annually.

History of Estuary Partnership leveraging:

Non-Federal

FY10: BPA; States; Private $4.9M
FY09: BPA; States; Private - $4.7M
FY08: BPA; States; Private - $3.2 M
FY07: BPA; States; Private - $2.8M
FY06: BPA; States; Private - $2.6 M

Federal

FY10: NOAA; EPA NEP - $645,000
FY09: NOAA; EPA NEP - $691,750
FY08: NOAA; EPA NEP - $702,000
FY07: NOAA; EPA NEP -$667,000;
FY06: NOAA; EPA NEP - $874,958

15. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project.

- BPA
- NOAA
- EPA
- USGS
- Army Corps of Engineers
- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
- WA Department of Ecology
- OR Department of Environmental Quality
- Northwest Power and Conservation Council
- Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board
- Columbia River Estuary Study Task Force, Micah Russell – Director
- City of Portland /Bureau of Environmental Services
- City of Vancouver/ Clark County
- Port of Vancouver
- Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments
- Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
- Lower Columbia Solutions Group
- METRO Regional Government
- OR and WA Parks Department
- OR and WA Fish and Wildlife Departments
- 29 municipalities, including Camas, Ridgefield, Longview, Astoria, Ilwaco
- 32 K-12 School Districts
- 14 Local Watershed Councils
- University of Washington, Portland State University
- Individual citizens; 1,186 teachers

- Ports
- Private corporations and Foundations
    - Sierra Club, Joes Foundation, REI Foundation, New Belgium Brewing Foundation, Camas-Washougal Community Trust, Eileen Fisher Foundation, East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, Oregon Community Foundation, Miller Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, Columbia Land Trust, Spirit Mountain Community Fund, Georgia Pacific Foundation, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Ash Creek Forest Management, Ducks Unlimited, Wetlands Reserve Program, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, The Wetlands Conservancy, Battelle Marine Science Laboratory/Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Willamette Riverkeepers, CMTS, Kiewit – Bilfinger Berger, NW Natural, AMEC, Anchor QEA, Bank of the Cascades, Brown and Caldwell, Cannery Pier Hotel, Carollo Engineers, Cascade Design Professionals, CH2MHill, City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services,• Columbia Bank, Crane & Merseth, David Evans & Associates, Inc., Deacon Charitable Foundation, EPSON, Inc. EnviroIssues, ETEK, LLC, Georgia-Pacific Corporation, HDR Engineering, Jacobs Associates, Jeanne Lawson & Associates, Murray, Smith, & Associates, Inc, MWH, Inc, Otak, Pacific Source Health Plans, Parametrix, Parsons Brinckerhoff, Port of Portland, Portland General Electric, Roberts Kaplan, LLP, Smith-Root, Inc, Winkler Development, Whole Foods Market

Please return this form no later than Friday, February 26, 2010 via email to:

Appropriations.Blumenauer@mail.house.gov

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Oregon Appropriations Contact for Rep. Earl Blumenauer: Sarah Masterson, 503-231-2300, Sarah.Masterson@mail.house.gov